



The Friendly Messenger

Amicable Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

William A. Sterrett ~ Pastor

April 2018

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Office Phone: 401-624-4611

Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Fridays
9 a.m. – 12 n.

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Pastor e-mail:

williamsterrett@cox.net

Website:

<http://www.amicablechurch.org>

 amicable congregational church, ucc

Amicable Sunday School

amicablechurchss@gmail.com

We offer Sunday School for
Preschoolers – 12th grade

We offer Child Care for
Babies – Toddlers

A.C.T.S

Amicable Church Thrift Shop
Open: 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m.
Thursdays and Saturdays

RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE
United Church of Christ
<http://www.ricucc.org>

Holy Week Services

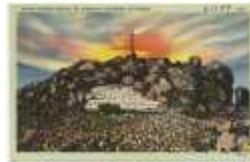
Maundy Thursday, March 29, at 7:30 PM, at **Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**.

Good Friday, March 30, at noon, an ecumenical “Walking the Stations of the Cross” will begin at **Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**.

Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter, March 31 at 7:30 PM, **Amicable Church** is hosting this ecumenical service, celebrating the services of the Word, Light, Water, and Bread & Cup.

Easter Sunrise, April 1, at 6:00 AM **Old Stone (First Baptist) Church** is hosting this ecumenical service on the front steps of their church.

Easter Sunday, April 1, at 10:00 AM, **Amicable Church's** annual Easter Sunday service will include communion.



Easter Offering

Each Easter season we have a special offering in support of our Benevolence Budget. Easter offering envelopes can be found in the backs of our church pews. Your support helps us reach around the world with God's supportive and transformative love.

For more information contact: the church office, 401-624-4611

Pastoral Letter

“God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.”
-I John 4:16b

Amicable – adj. marked by good will; friendly; peaceable

- Webster's College Dictionary, 1992

“Never place a period, where God has placed a comma.” -Gracie Allen
“God is still speaking.” - U.C.C. identity campaign

Food Pantry



East Bay Community Action
Program
1048 Stafford Rd, Tiverton, RI
(401) 625-5123



Membership at Amicable

If you are interested in becoming a member of Amicable Church please contact Rev. Bill Sterrett – 401- 787-8828 or Call the Church Office 401- 624-4611.

Prayer List



*Please call the
Pastor*

*401 - 787-8828 or the Church
Office ~401- 624- 4611.*

A.C.T.S.

Amicable Church Thrift Shop

We are now accepting Spring and Summer clothing. Thank you for your generous donations of Winter clothing, but due to storage constraints, we can only accept donations of Spring and Summer items at this time.

For your convenience, there is a donation bin located outside the church on the East Courtyard side of the building.

A.C.T.S. News on Page 5

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”
- U.C.C. identity campaign

If you would want to know my core beliefs, the above five quotes are a good place to start. Without a doubt, the most important of these quotes is the first – “God is love.” This is the foundation of my faith. All doctrines, all teachings of the faith are subservient to this three-word statement. If my actions and my words are not grounded in, and done out of, God’s *agape*, God’s love, then they are not faith-ful, not faith-filled words and deeds, for God would be absent.

Just recently I was encouraged to look up the definition of “amicable”. I knew the definition, sort of, but dictionaries are often very good at distilling the verbiage down to its core meaning. So, I was surprised, if not bowled over, by the definition – “marked by good will; friendly; peaceable”. Oh, the wonderful, wonder-filled inspiration of our founders, who chose this name for our faith community. I often, proudly, tell people how inspiring you all are to me because you strive so hard to live up to our name.

These thoughts came to me as I reflected on where I have been and where my faith journey is presently. Some of you know that about a year ago I struggled through a crisis of faith. I fell into doubt about myself and my ministry. These “desert” times can happen to us all. By the grace of God, and your love, I have come out on the other side of these dark times with a faith stronger than ever before. One of the things that got strengthened was my knowing – in my head and in my heart – that God is in control, not me, so I just need to trust and keep going. As Gracie Allen knew, God does not “place periods” in our lives, just a “comma” now and then. So, don’t stop, keep stepping forward.

As our understanding of life evolves and matures, so too does our understanding of God and God’s call in our lives. “God is still speaking.” The teachings of the past are helpful, but we must also be attuned to new teachings, based on God’s love and the times we live in. The words of the Old Testament prophets and New Testament teachings continue to challenge us, but there are still prophets speaking today with their messages “written on subway walls and tenement halls”, to quote Paul Simon, as well as in the deeds and actions of faith communities like Amicable Church.

I am excited about the ministry outreach of our church. We are about welcoming people into our midst with the desire that together we will bring ourselves and others into relationship with God, who is love, and through that relationship be changed, transformed into who God intends us all to be. What inspires and excites me the most is seeing children, youth, and adults transformed, enlightened, and their life’s load lightened, because of their relationship with Amicable Church. This happens at Amicable a lot.

God’s transformative love, flowing through us and out into the world, is why it is so important that we “Widen Our Welcome”, constantly reminding ourselves and the world: “No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

*Join a Ministry-
Share Your Gifts*



LOVE TO SING?

That is all that is required to join the Amicable Choir! You need not be an accomplished singer, nor do you need to have any choir experience. We meet once a week for one hour on Wednesdays at 6:30

We sing typically twice a month in the service. Come give it a try.

Quilters - Knitters



Wednesdays, 9:00 – 11:00 .

This is a great opportunity to enjoy two hours of relaxed companionship with other women who have similar interests. No experience is required. You may attend these sessions and learn. Those who do other hand crafts are also welcome.

*Prayer Shawls ~
"A Warm Hug"*



The shawls are knit or crocheted for those in our church or community who are going through challenging times, for our confirmands, and for babies who are baptized.

Shawls can be worked on at home or on Wednesday mornings during the knitting and quilting time. Yarn, patterns and needles are available at the church. We also use fleece prayer shawls for young children, if you do not knit or crochet.

For more information, please call Barbara Holmes 401-624-2221.

I pray each and every one of you will continue to commit yourself to the welcoming work of Amicable Church, in and through the grace of God, who is love.

Yours in Christ,

Worship Themes

April 1 Easter Sunday. In worship we conclude our Lenten sermon series, "Meeting the Other", by examining what we have learned; seeing if there is any light in the darkness of the "great Divide" in our country; where we might find the hope of the resurrection. Just as the first Easter was not the end, rather the beginning of something new, so too does this Easter, which marks the end of our "Building Bridges" conversations, represent a renewed start for the bridges of understanding we at Amicable Church are working on building.

April 8 Holy Humor Sunday. The early church tradition says that the truth of Easter brought so much relief to those who lived in so much fear that their response was laughter. So, on this Sunday, instead of the usual sermon, jokes will be shared, giving us all a chance to fill the sanctuary with laughter. Come and laugh; come and share a joke; or, let Rev. Sterrett in on the fun and give him a new joke to tell.

April 15 Rev. Dr. Leslie Simonson will be leading worship while Rev. Sterrett is away.

April 22 Earth Day. In honor of Earth Day we are planning a very special worship service with the help of the Sunday School. We will focus on the care of creation in partnership with God. Special plants for all gardens will be given out in worship. So, come join in the celebration and see what special flowering plants you will receive for your garden.

April 29 A baptism! How appropriate for the Easter season – a time of re-birth and new life – that we welcome Benjamin Ellis into our faith community through the rite of baptism. The sermon will focus on Ben's baptismal blessing verse. So, plan to be in worship and welcome Ben into our fellowship.

Amicable News at a Glance

Perpetual May Breakfast

Sunday morning, April 8, we invite you to once again, travel to Mathewson Street United Methodist Church, 134 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI, to share breakfast at their weekly neighborhood open house. For those interested in carpooling we will meet at 7:30 AM in Amicable's

Lay Reader

Volunteers are needed to serve as Lay Readers. A sign-up sheet is in the rear of the Sanctuary. speak with any Deacon or contact Jean Galipeau at jeanpeau@cox.net or 401-624-8540.

Hospitality



Greeters/Ushers

We seek to be as welcoming as Jesus was at the wedding feast at Cana and as our name suggests. Please consider serving as a Sunday greeter. The sign-up sheets can be found on the long table at the back of the sanctuary. Please let Kristen Zeiser know if you need or have misplaced your name badge. She'll be happy to make you a new one.

Coffee Hour...

...offers the chance for members, friends, and visitors to get to know one another better, share concerns and catch up on the latest news. Volunteers are always needed to help host each week throughout the year. While we are still enjoying our limited Coffee Hour facilities at the rear of the Sanctuary, the time is coming soon, where we will be able to enjoy our new spaces and an expanded coffee service!

parking lot. Breakfast and a brief worship service in their fellowship hall begins at 8:00 AM and we leave to return to Amicable at 9:00 AM in time for our own worship service. For each dollar we donate toward our breakfast we pay not only for our meal but that of one of the other guests. We did this last January and all who went, adults and children, were deeply touched by the experience.

For more information or just to let us know you will be going, contact Pat Campion at (401) 297-7323.



On Saturday, 4/21/18, from 9:00-noon there will be a Church Spring Clean-up.

We will be cleaning up the courtyard, south parking lot, and south outside entrance to the church. If you are interested in helping please leave a message at the church, [401-624-4611](tel:401-624-4611) or call Maryellen Castro [401-419-5223](tel:401-419-5223).

Earth Day Sunday

In honor of Earth Day we are planning a very special worship service with the help of the Sunday School. We will focus on the care of creation in partnership with God. Special indigenous garden plants will be given out in worship for you to take home and plant. Some of these plants will also be planted in various, appropriate places at Amicable Church. So, come join in the celebration and see what special, indigenous flowering plant you will receive for your garden.

Rev. Sterrett Out of Town

Rev. Sterrett will be away from Thursday, April 12, until Wednesday, April 18. In case of a pastoral emergency while he is away, please contact the church office, 624-4611 or the Revs. Charles and Leslie Simonson, 624-7367.



Deaths

It is with sadness that we report of the deaths of Joyce Lamothe and Nancy Pontes.

Joyce Lamothe died March 7 after a long struggle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gary and Sarah, as well as Joyce's extended family and many friends. As of this writing there are no plans for a memorial service. When we know more, we send out an email.

Nancy Cavaca Pontes died March 8, after a long struggle with dementia. A

funeral service was held Saturday, March 17, at Connors/Memorial Funeral Home in Portsmouth. A graveside committal service will be held at Hillside Cemetery (across Main Rd. from Amicable Church) at noon on Saturday, June 9. A reception will be held in Amicable's upper hall following the committal service.

There are no words that can truly comfort us in the face of death. We must rely on our faith, trusting in God's unconditional, powerful love; a love from which we can never be separated; a love that tells us Joyce and Nancy are united with God, even as we remained connected to them through the love they shared with us and we shared with them

Baptism



On Sunday, April 29, Benjamin Tobias Ellis will be baptized during worship. Ben's parents are Edward McIntire and Heather Ellis and his grandparents George Papineau and Gail Aubin-Fisher. We are delighted to welcome Ben and his family into the fellowship of Amicable Church and we pray that Ben will learn of the healing, encouraging, supportive, and transformative love of God in and through Amicable Church, as he grows and develops in faith.

A.C.T.S. News

The Amicable Church Thrift Shop will reopen on Thursday, March 29 after a two-week hiatus. The lower hallways now have new flooring and we have all new clothing in stock and a fresh, new look for Spring! We are still accepting spring and summer clothing and household items donations.

A special 'Thank You' to Pat Campion for who arranged to have all our winter clothing taken to Savers. Savers pays by the pound for such donations from churches and the money made will support Youth Group activities.



Save the Date
Summer Festival 2018 will be
Saturday, June 23. Stay tuned for
more details.

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p> <p>6 am Old Stone Church Sunrise Service</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>7:30-8:30 pm Al anon (DR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>8:30am Faith Conversations (S)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>9 – 11 am Quilters/Knitters (S)</p> <p>6:30 Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>Second Sunday of Easter</p> <p>8 am Mathewson Breakfast</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>5:30 – 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (CR)</p> <p>7:30 – 8:30 pm Al anon (DR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>8:30 am Faith Conversations (S)</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Committee</p> <p>6-7pm Cub Scouts (CR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>9 – 11 am Quilters/Knitters (S)</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:30 pm Standing Committee (CR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>12:00 noon Trustees Meeting (Castro)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>Third Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>6:30-9:30pm GTCC (S)</p> <p>7:30 – 8:30 pm Al anon (DR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>8:30 am Faith Conversations (S)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>9 – 11 am Quilters/Knitters (S)</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:30 pm Visitation Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p> <p>6:30-9:30pm GTCC (S)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p> <p>9:00 am – noon Spring Clean Up</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10 am Worship</p> <p>Earth Day Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>5:30 – 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (CR)</p> <p>6:30-9:30pm GTCC (S)</p> <p>7:30 – 8:30 pm Al anon (DR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>8:30 am Faith Conversations (S)</p> <p>6-7pm Cub Scouts (CR)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>9 – 11am Quilters/Knitters (S)</p> <p>6-7:30 pm Sandywoods</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:30 pm Mission Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p> <p>6:30-9:30pm GTCC (S)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>10am-2pm Amicable Church Thrift Shop</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>Fifth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10am Worship</p> <p>Baptism</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>5:30 – 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (CR)</p> <p>5:45-7:00 pm GTCC Board Meeting (CR)</p> <p>7:30 – 8:30 pm Al anon (DR)</p>				<p style="text-align: center;"><i><u>Friendly Reminder</u></i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next <i>Friendly Messenger</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deadline for May submissions: 4/23/2018 <i>Thank You!</i></p>	

As this is a construction project we know that no estimate or forecast is perfect. What follows is the latest history, the latest estimates and projections, and the latest info looking forward. The estimates, projections, and looking forward info will be updated monthly. (RCG)

Messier Construction (Rick Messier)

Maryellen Castro (Insurance, Compliance)
Martha MacNaught (Design, Materials)

Sixteen on Center (Shawn Harris)

Roger Gauthier (Lead, Financial)
Todd Strunk (Construction Oversight)

Start Date: 07/17/17

Est'd Finish Date: **04/16/18**

But Assume: **Mid-May**

Weekly On-Going Status

- 07/17 – 09/01: Existing north lobby & stairs, chimney, furnace room, lower level bathrooms removed; old & new basement excavation done; basement & addition footings & foundation walls & internal structures poured, tarred, insulated; old bathroom flooring/plumbing removed; well casing uncovered, cut down to new basement level size & capped & no casing damage found; lower level sand & stone laid in basement areas; rough plumbing completed in lower level
- 09/05 – 09/29: Concrete support, lower level & basement floors were poured; old library roof removed; framing of the new addition, including internal updates completed; rough floors in new lobby, minister's & secretary's office & UH landing completed; exterior framing and rough roofs completed
- 10/02 – 10/25: Interior rough stairs/walls completed; bulkhead installed; roofs completed; new Windows installed; Hot air furnaces installed, duct work completed to UH/Classrooms; 2 boilers installed; well depth, water fracture inspected, video'd, all looks good; Electrical wiring started; Heat piping for Sanctuary hooked up; Well & Water hook-up started; UH wall framing started; addition almost weather tight
- 10/28 – 11/03: Last 2 windows in; Weather tight except for front doors; UH wall framing 85%; Siding installation complete on west and lower north sides (except for porch); Electrical rough wiring & box connections 75%; Plumbing venting, dirty water output, & water feed lines to new addition areas complete; Oil feed lines to all furnaces connected
- 11/06 – 12/01: Rough water available; Hot Air Furnaces & Boilers hooked up; Mechanical inspections for plumbing & heating A-OK; Siding Installation on North Sanctuary exterior complete; Temp plywood door at new North Entry makes addition Weather Tight; Building Official's framing & structural inspection complete; insulation of addition's roofs, attics, exterior walls, basement walls complete; Furnace flue installed, Boilers operational, **Sanctuary & Dining Room HEAT is ON!!**; Hot Air Furnaces ready; Sheet rock complete; **HEAT is ON in Classrooms & Upper Hall**
- 12/04 – 12/29: Plastering; North downspouts connected to existing underground piping; Special carpentry started; Vestry room flooring started; Window Trim; Lower Hallway flooring prep; Electrical panel started; Kitchenette flooring started
- 01/02 – 02/02: Flooring: Vestry & Kitchenette complete; Lobby stairs (both sets) laid; Electric 440amp hook-up complete; Exterior North doors installed; Flooring: Secretary's Office complete, UH Landing 50% complete
- 02/05 – 02/23: Flooring: UH Landing/Walkway & Minister's Office complete; Interior Door installations complete; Lift installed; UH West Wall-Top framed in & sheet-rocked; Sanctuary/Vestry Doors installed
- 02/26 – 03/02: Vestry Doors & Area back together; Baseboard Molding, Trim, Wainscot complete
- 03/05 – 03/09: Misc. carpentry tasks; Kitchenette cabinets are being made off-site;
- 03/12 – 03/16: Final plastering completed; Lobby tile installed; Lower level tile prep. in progress
- 03/19 – 03/23: Lower Level & Bathroom Tile installation in progress; Interior Painting started

Coming Next

Painting; Kitchenette; Heat Radiators; Install Tile Floors – Bathrooms, Lower Level; Plumbing & Bathrooms; Electrical & Fixtures; Communications/Internet; Finish/Poly Wood Floors; North Exterior slab & sidewalks

[Non-Accessibility Task: Install New Water Treatment System & Backflush Containment System]

Financial Info

Loan Disbursements received for July, Aug, Nov, Jan, Feb construction expenses
Sept, Oct, Dec. construction expenses paid with Accessibility Funds

Campaign Pledges Made: \$470,487 Receipts to date: \$419,621+3055+60=**\$422,736**
Donation & Memorial Contributions to date: \$61,486+100=**\$61,586**

Expenses & Construction Loan info thru 03/22/18

Project Construction & Support Expenses Paid: \$480,653

Current Construction Loan Balance: \$214,376

Current Construction Loan Interest Expenses Paid: \$1,503

Thank You for Your Continued Support



Amicable Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3736 Main Road
Tiverton, RI 02878

BIRTHDAYS

04/01 Robert Paige
04/06 Jean Galipeau
04/06 Laura Poulton
04/07 Dorothy Brooks
04/07 Diane Medeiros
04/11 Rosalie Durfee
04/12 Barbie Lewis
04/12 Carrie Cellemme
04/16 Barbara Beckmann
04/19 Raymond Lundgren
04/21 Allison McMillan
04/22 Ken Kubic
04/29 Rike Sterrett

April



ANNIVERSARIES

04/12 Becky & Gary Priest
04/20 Keith & Barbie Lewis
04/25 Don & Judy Dufour